IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

U.S. DISTRICT COURT

FOR	THE	SOU'	THERN	DIST	TRICT	OF	GEOR	GIA
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)	
v.)	CR 105-118
ANTHONY LAMAR BUFORD)	
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ORDER

Before the Court are the various pre-trial and discovery motions filed by Defendant Anthony Lamar Buford. The United States of America, by and through its attorney, Edmund A. Booth, Jr., Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, and Patricia Green Johnson, Assistant United States Attorney, has filed a combined response to these motions.

GENERAL DISCOVERY MOTION

1. Discovery:

As to Defendant's general discovery requests (doc. no. 34), the government responds that it has provided Defendant virtually its entire file through its "open file" discovery policy. The discovery materials consist of investigative reports, scientific reports, and other documents which are material to this case (attorney and agent work product excepted). All known statements by Defendant have been produced, as has his criminal record. Accordingly, the Court finds that the position of the United States Attorney in permitting full disclosure of the government's file pertaining to this case renders Defendant's discovery requests MOOT.

However, to ensure that Defendant's requests are in fact covered by the government's disclosures, the Court hereby requires counsel for Defendant to submit not later than five (5) days from the date of this Order a written statement describing any existing disputes or unresolved items that have not been specifically addressed elsewhere in this Order. The statement should detail the specific items sought and should include a memorandum of law.

Defense counsel is reminded that dissemination of discovery material beyond that necessary to the preparation of the defense is prohibited by Loc. Crim. R. 16.1.

Any discovery material turned over to Defendant shall be maintained by Defendant and not further disseminated. Failure to comply with the terms of this Order may result in contempt proceedings. Further addressing Defendant's specific requests for disclosure:

2. Statements of Defendant:

In light of the government's liberal discovery policy and the government's statement that all known statements by Defendant have been produced, this request is **MOOT**.

3. <u>Tangible and Seized Items</u>:

The government's liberal discovery policy should eliminate the possibility of surprise at trial. Therefore, this request is **MOOT**.

4. <u>Witnesses, Co-Conspirators and Knowledgeable Persons:</u>

Defendant seeks knowledge of the existence and identification of potential government witnesses that testified before any court, grand jury or other tribunal body. Defendant requests the names, addresses, telephone numbers, or any criminal records of those persons expected to testify or who may have some knowledge of the facts of this case, but will not testify. Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(E) provides:

Upon a defendant's request, the government must permit the defendant to inspect and to copy or photograph books, papers, documents, data, photographs, tangible objects, buildings or places, or copies or portions of any of these items, if the item is within the government's possession, custody, or control and:

- (i) the item is material to preparing the defense;
- (ii) the government intends to use the item in its case-in-chief at trial; or
- (iii) the item was obtained from or belongs to the defendant.

Under this Rule, a defendant is entitled to discover certain materials if they are either (1) material to the preparation of the defense, or (2) intended by the government to be used as evidence, or (3) were obtained from the defendant. Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(E). However, this Rule is qualified and limited by Rule 16(a)(2), which provides:

Except as Rule 16(a)(1) provides otherwise, this rule does not authorize the discovery or inspection of reports, memoranda, or other internal government documents made by an attorney for the government or other government agent in connection with investigating or prosecuting the case. Nor does this rule authorize the discovery or inspection of statements made by prospective government witnesses except as provided in 18 U.S.C. § 3500.

It can be seen that Rule 16(a)(2) prevents the "discovery or inspection . . . of statements made by government witnesses except as provided in 18 U.S.C. § 3500." Even if the statements satisfy one of the requirements of Rule 16(a)(1)(E), their discovery by a defendant is still barred by Rule 16(a)(2) unless those witnesses will testify at trial. In that case, the statements would be discoverable pursuant to the Jencks Act. See generally United States v. Schier, 438 F.3d 1104, 1112 (11th Cir. 2006) (reviewing requirements for disclosure of statements of witnesses testifying at trial and explicitly noting that "Jencks Act does not apply to the statements of non-testifying witnesses"). The statements of persons the government does not intend to call as witnesses at trial amount, therefore, to nothing more

than internal memoranda, discovery of which is not permitted pursuant to the explicit mandate of Rule 16(a)(2). If the statements are not otherwise discoverable pursuant to the rule in <u>Brady v. Maryland</u>, 373 U.S. 83 (1963) and its progeny and no showing of materiality is made, they are not discoverable at all.

5. Informants:

Defendant seeks detailed disclosures regarding informants, "special employees," and undercover investigators. Defendant also seeks information such as "any investigative agencies' departmental rules or regulations to which any informant or special employee was hired, employed or requested to participate in the investigation of this case." Further, Defendant seeks all statements of informants as well as the identity of persons associated with the prosecution who spoke to the informants. Where the informant was not an active participant in the criminal activity, disclosure is not required. Roviaro v. United States, 353 U.S. 53, 561-63 (1957); United States v. Gutierrez, 931 F.2d. 1482, 1490-91 (11th Cir. 1991); United States v. Parikh, 858 F.2d 688, 696 (11th Cir. 1988) ("factor of primary importance in striking balance (enunciated in Roviaro) is the degree of participation exercised by the informant"); United States v. Moreno, 588 F.2d 490, 494 (5th Cir. 1979) (mere possibility of obtaining relevant testimony too remote to require informant's disclosure; more than speculation about usefulness required). The government's very liberal discovery in this case should enable Defendant to adequately investigate the government's Otherwise, the government must disclose the identities of active participant case. informants.

6. Scientific Tests, Experiments and Results:

Defendant seeks discovery of the results of any scientific tests and experiments made in connection with this case. Defendant additionally seeks information greatly exceeding that mandated by Fed. R. Crim. P. 16. The government has acknowledged its obligation to provide all Rule 16 materials and has stated that the results of any scientific tests have been provided in the discovery materials. Therefore, this request is **MOOT**.

7. Experts:

In light of the government's liberal discovery policy, this request is **MOOT**.

8. Tangible Objects, Accelerated Jencks Material Notes, Destroyed or Preserved:

The Jencks Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3500, requires the government to provide Defendant with statements of witnesses immediately following their testimony in court. There is no authority for the Court to grant an early release or disclosure of that material. United States v. Schier, 438 F.3d 1104, 1112 (11th Cir. 2006); United States v. Jordan, 316 F.3d 1215, 1251-52 (11th Cir. 2003); United States v. Jimenez, 613 F.2d 1373, 1378 (5th Cir. 1980). However, early disclosure of Jencks Act materials will avoid unnecessary delay and inconvenience to the Court and jury. The government also states that it is willing to provide Jencks Act materials, including grand jury transcripts, one week prior to trial. The government has not opposed this motion in its response. The government is, therefore, hereby instructed to provide Jencks Act materials seven (7) days prior to trial. Defendant's request for production of internal governmental memoranda and agents' notes is DENIED.

9. **Giglio Information**:

A separate motion was filed seeking this identical discovery, and therefore, this request is addressed below.

10. Law Enforcement Agents' Identities:

In light of the government's liberal discovery policy, this request is MOOT.

11. Polygraph Examinations:

In light of the government's liberal discovery policy, this request is MOOT.

12. <u>Psychiatric or Psychological Examinations:</u>

In light of the government's liberal discovery policy, this request is MOOT.

13. <u>Favorable Evidence under Brady and Giglio</u>:

A separate motion was filed seeking this identical discovery, and therefore, this request is addressed below.

MOTION TO PRESERVE EVIDENCE, AGENTS' ROUGH NOTES, REPORTS, MEMORANDA AND TAPE RECORDINGS

Defendant Buford filed a motion to preserve evidence, including rough notes of agents. Defendant does not demand disclosure or production of this evidence, merely preservation. While this material is not generally discoverable, it may later during trial have probative value for purposes of impeachment. The small inconvenience to the government is outweighed by Defendant's interest in a fair trial and the possibility that among the evidence there could be an item later needed for use at trial. The motion is **GRANTED**. (Doc. no. 27). The government is required to preserve all evidence in this case.

MOTION TO RESERVE THE RIGHT TO FILE ADDITIONAL MOTIONS

This motion filed by Defendant Buford is **DENIED**. (Doc. no. 28). The Court ordered that all motions in this case were to be filed within ten (10) days of the date of arraignment and that untimely motions would not be considered absent a showing of good cause for failure to file within the time set by the Court. This Order, however, does not prohibit Defendant from making his showing of cause contemporaneously with the filing of out-of-time motions.

MOTION FOR NOTICE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE INTENTION TO RELY UPON OTHER CRIMES EVIDENCE PURSUANT TO FEDERAL RULE OF EVIDENCE 404(b)

Defendant Buford filed a motion seeking the government to give notice of its intention to use at trial evidence of "other crimes, wrongs or acts" under Fed. R. Evid. 404(b). The Local Rules provide:

As soon as practicable after the defendant's arraignment, and in any event no more than twenty (20) days after the arraignment (unless the Court directs otherwise), the United States Attorney shall serve upon counsel for the defendant a written notice of any direct or circumstantial evidence of other crimes, wrongs, or acts of the defendant, or specific instances of conduct or criminal convictions of the defendant, which the Government intends to offer into evidence through either Fed. R. Evid. 404(b) or under the theory that the evidence is so inextricably intertwined with defendant's charged offense that it should be admissible.

Loc. Crim. R. 16.2; see also Loc. Crim. R. 12.3.

In its Arraignment Order dated February 16, 2007 (doc. no. 25), the Court directed that if the government intends to use 404(b) evidence, it must make the required disclosure

in accordance with the Local Rules. Accordingly, this motion requesting 404(b) disclosures, which the government has already been directed to make, is **MOOT**. (Doc. no. 30).

PRELIMINARY MOTION TO SUPPRESS

This motion was filed to preserve Defendant Buford's right to particularize the motion at a later date. (Doc. no. 31). However, a motion may not be filed outside the deadlines set by this Court at arraignment except by leave of Court upon a showing of cause. United States v. Smith, 918 F.2d 1501, 1509 (11th Cir. 1990); see Fed. R. Crim. P. 12(c), (e). Moreover, the motion was filed without the supporting affidavit required by Loc. Crim. 12.1. On March 6, 2007, the Court issued an order instructing Defendant that if he intended to particularize his motion with an affidavit, he must do so within ten (10) days. (See doc. no. 37). Defendant failed to submit his affidavit. Therefore, this motion is a NULLITY. Should Defendant desire to file a particularized motion at a time subsequent to this Order, he must adequately explain his failure to timely file same.

MOTION FOR DISCLOSURE OF EXCULPATORY AND IMPEACHING MATERIAL

Defendant Buford has filed a motion seeking the disclosure of exculpatory and impeaching information in accordance with the principles of <u>Brady v. Maryland</u>, 373 U.S. 83 (1963) and <u>Giglio v. United States</u>, 405 U.S. 150 (1972). (Doc. no. 32). To some extent, Defendant's request exceed the scope of <u>Brady</u>. <u>Brady</u> material includes information that is favorable to a defendant and material to the issues of guilt or punishment. <u>Brady</u>, 373 U.S. at 87; <u>United States v. Agurs</u>, 427 U.S. 97 (1976). These motions are **GRANTED** to the extent that the government must provide all <u>Brady</u> material to Defendant within five (5) days

of the date it is received or its existence becomes known. With regard to impeaching information, the government must disclose this information seven (7) days prior to trial.

MOTION FOR LIST OF GOVERNMENT WITNESSES

Defendant Buford has filed a motion requesting that the government be ordered to furnish a complete list of witnesses. In non-capital cases such as this case, a defendant is generally not entitled to a list of government witnesses. <u>United States v. Massell.</u>, 823 F.2d 1503, 1509 (11th Cir. 1987); <u>United States v. Johnson</u>, 713 F.2d 654, 659 (11th Cir. 1983); <u>United States v. Colson</u>, 662 F.2d 1389, 1391 (11th Cir. 1981). However, as a practical matter, it would appear that Defendant will be receiving much of this information because of the government's liberal discovery policy and because of the government's obligation to disclose material pursuant to the Jencks Act and/or <u>Brady v. Maryland</u>, 373 U.S. 83 (1963). This, in essence, moots Defendant's request. While this Court retains the right to exercise its discretion in permitting Defendant to have access to a list of government witnesses, at most the government would be required to comply with this request not more than ten (10) days prior to trial. Therefore, this motion is **DENIED**. (Doc. no. 33).

GOVERNMENT'S MOTION FOR RECIPROCAL DISCOVERY

This request filed by the government seeks reciprocal discovery from Defendant under Rule 16(b) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. In light of the government's

willingness to provide "open file" discovery, it is entitled to this information. See Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(b)(1). Accordingly, the motion is GRANTED. (Doc. no. 36).

SO ORDERED this <u>Hot</u>day of May, 2007, at Augusta, Georgia.

W. LEON BARFIÈLD

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

United States District Court

Southern District of Georgia

UNITED	TATES OF AMERICA	*	
vs. ANTHONY LAMAR BUFORD		* * * *	CASE NO. 1:05-cr-118
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2.	That the aforementioned order part of the official record) contain a copy of the documents known as dated 5/21/07, which is se.
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